Solution of Jharkhand problem

1031. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps for the solution of Jharkhand problem; and

(b) if so, the details of the outcome of the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) and (b) In order to find ways and means of arriving at viable solution to the Jharkhand problem, the Committee on Jharkhand matters consisting of representatives of Jharkhand Movement, representatives from the Central Government, the State Government of Bihar and some experts well-versed with the problems of the region was constituted. The experts have submitted a draft report.

Poor conditions of 'Zuari Bridge' in Goa

1032. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the dilapidated condition of newly constructed Zuari Bridge on the National Highway in Goa which requires immediate repairs and maintenance:

(b) whether Government have appointed any technical committee to investigate the condition of the bridge; if so, what are its findings; and

(c) whether Government propose to build a new parallel bridge in immediate future?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Some cracks have appeared in the wearing cost of the bridge deck and an estimate for resurfacing has already been sanctioned in consultation with the Central Roads Research Institute. Some other constructional deficiencies have also been reported.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

Steamer service between Goa and Bombay

1033. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to resume the steamer service between Goa and Bombay in view of withdrawal of I.P.K.F. from Sri Lanka;

(b) whether the steamer services were withdrawn only to be used by I.P.K.F. and not because they were running into losses;

(c) if so, when the sailing of these steamers will be resumed by Shipping Corporation of India; and

(d) whether Government propose to permit some private operators to operate, side by side, in view of heavy traffic on this route?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) The Government is examining the possibility of resumption of this service after return of the two vessels by Ministry of Defence and the vessels undergoing Annual Passenger survey/repairs.

(b) and (c) The Steamer Services were withdrawn to meet the requirements of Ministry of Defence. However, the service was incurring heavy losses and the two vessels a